

### **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims of the present application as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for preparing an anti-theft paper register receipt roll for preventing unauthorized removal from a retailer, comprising:
  - providing a rigid plastic core with an electronic sensor secured thereto, the core having a length of between 2 1/4 and 3 1/4 inches to facilitate its use within a register and wherein the sensor produces a detectable signal;
  - winding a length of thermal ink paper over the rigid plastic core, the thermal ink paper having a length that corresponds to the length of the rigid plastic core; and
  - detecting the signal from the sensor when it passes through or near a detection zone at the retailer's location, thereby preventing unauthorized removal of the paper roll.
2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sensor is secured to the outside surface of the rigid plastic core.
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 1 wherein the rigid plastic core includes a hollow cylinder having an interior surface and an exterior surface, between which surfaces is a core wall, and wherein the exterior surface further comprises a longitudinal flat surface integrally formed therein.
6. (previously presented) An electronic article surveillance system comprising:
  - a rigid cylindrical core having a length of between 2 1/4 to 3 1/4 inches;
  - a sensor interconnected to the core, the sensor producing a detectable signal;

a length of register receipt paper wound about the core and sensor; the core and register receipt paper together constituting the register receipt roll;

a detector for detecting the signal generated by the sensor so as to prevent the unauthorized removal of the register receipt roll.

7. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the regular receipt paper is thermal paper.
8. (previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the core further comprises an exterior surface with a flat surface integrally formed thereon, and wherein the system further comprises affixing the sensor to the flat surface of the core.
9. (original) The system of claim 6, wherein the signal activates an alarm.
10. (original) The system of claim 9, wherein the alarm is at least one audible indicator, visual indicator, silent alarm having a remote indicator, or activation of a physical blocking means, and combinations thereof.
11. (original) The system of claim 9, wherein the alarm is recognized at a remote location.
12. (original) The system of claim 9, wherein the alarm is recognized proximal to the detection zone.